

## Message Text

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ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 /054 W

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R 262130Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4917

INFO USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L LA PAZ 7762

DEPT PASS DOD/ISA/DSAA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, BL

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR EARLY DELIVERY OF AN-PRC-77 RADIOS FOR  
BOLIVIAN TIPO REGIMENTS

REF: A) STATE 026354: B) LA PAZ 1291

1. PRES BANZER AND THE BOLIVIAN ARMY ARE PRESSING  
HARD TO SPEED UP DELIVERIES OF MAP MATERIEL FOR THE  
TIPO REGIMENTS. THEY ARE ANXIOUS TO OBTAIN A QUAN-  
TITY OF AN-PRC-77 RADIOS, 242 OF WHICH ALREADY HAVE  
BEEN PROGRAMMED UNDER MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM  
(MAP), AND URGENTLY REQUESTED THAT THIS ITEM BE  
FURNISHED UNDER THAT PROGRAM. THE PRESIDENT IS  
CONCERNED ABOUT COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE ARMY AND  
HAS MENTIONED TO THE AMBASSADOR THAT DURING THE  
RECENT SANTA CRUZ COUP ATTEMPT HE EXPERIENCED  
INABILITY TO COMMUNICATE WITH HIS TROOP COMMANDERS  
IN SANTA CRUZ WHILE PERSONALLY COORDINATING THE  
GOB EFFORTS IN THAT AREA. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD AT ALL  
LEVELS OF CONTACT ON MILITARY MATTERS THAT AN-PRC-77  
RADIO IS CONSIDERED TO BE THE MOST CRITICAL ITEM AT  
THE PRESENT TIME AMONG THOSE ITEMS PROGRAMMED FOR  
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TIPO REQUIREMENTS. (IN OUR OPINION, AND IN ACCORDANCE

WITH MILITARY DOCTRINE, IT IS OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE THAT A MILITARY COMMANDER HAVE THE GREATEST POSSIBLE CONTROL OVER HIS TROOPS, ESPECIALLY IN THE MIDST OF CIVIL-MILITARY DISORDER, TO MINIMIZE USE OF FORCE.)

2. IN THIS REGARD, RECORDS OF EQUIPMENT FOR TIOP REGIMENTS MAINTAINED IN THE USMILGP BOLIVIA INDICATE THAT THERE ARE 183 RADIOS, AN-PRC-77 (RCN FY73PC42) WHICH ARE FUNDED UNDER MAP BUT UNDELIVERED. WE ARE, HOWEVER, MINDFUL OF THE DIFFICULTIES INHERENT IN THE DELIVERY SCHEDULE FOR THIS RADIO, BUT HOPE THAT A SPECIAL EFFORT CAN BE MADE TO ACCELERATE DELIVERY OF THESE RADIOS AHEAD OF THE DATES GIVEN IN REF (A).

3. YOUR ASSISTANCE IN CAUSING PROMPT DELIVERY OF A PORTION OF THE FUNDED AN-PRC-77 RADIOS, SAY ONE HUNDRED, WOULD PROBABLY SATISFY THE URGENCY OF THE BOLIVIAN REQUEST AND WOULD BE IN OUR BEST INTERESTS.  
STEDMAN

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## Message Attributes

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